8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Commission Expert Group on the control of major accident hazards involving dangerous substances ("Seveso Expert Group")

## 16<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2021 – VIRTUAL MEETING, BRUSSELS

#### **FINAL Minutes**

#### 1. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

#### 1.1. Welcome

The non-public meeting of the Seveso Expert Group (SEG) was attended by 81 participants. This included all Member States. The following observers attended the meeting: Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, OECD, UNECE, CEFIC, CONCAWE, EEB, EPSC and FECC. The following Commission Services also attended: JRC.E.2, ECHO.A.3 and ENV E.2.

The meeting was chaired by Ms. Aneta WILLEMS (Head of Unit ENV.C.4), who welcomed the participants and kindly reminded the rules of conduct of the virtual meeting.

#### 1.2. Adoption of the Agenda

The draft agenda of the meeting was sent on 4 February 2021. The main objective of the meeting was to open the discussion with SEG members on future actions to improve industrial accident prevention as part of the European Green Deal.

The agenda was adopted without any changes.

## 1.3. Adoption of the minutes of the last 7<sup>th</sup> SEG meeting

Draft minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> SEG meeting held on 14 May 2019 in Sibiu, Romania, were sent to the SEG members on 14 January 2020. Comments were received from FR, PL and SE and were considered for the final draft. The final draft was uploaded to CIRCABC on 6 March 2020 in advance of this 8<sup>th</sup> SEG meeting.

During the meeting there were no additional comments and the SEG members adopted the final minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> SEG meeting.

# 2. MEMBER STATES ACTIVITIES

FR informed the SEG members on the latest developments following the Lubrizol accident in Rouen (26 September 2019). It recalled the consequences of the accident, which

affected 15% of the Lubrizol site: no human injuries due to heat radiation or explosion, strong fallout of soot, surface water pollution and 9 000 tons of products burnt. It pointed out that the accident risk prevention plan that was established before the accident, was the factor that reduced the risk at the source and thus avoided even greater consequences from happening. It also informed on new regulatory provisions (chemicals and products inventory, list of decomposition products likely to be emitted in the event of a fire) and ongoing reflection (environmental monitoring, safety culture).

FR also informed SEG members on its upcoming full-scale exercise "Domino 2022". The exercise focuses mainly on the civil protection response to an industrial accident in Seveso establishments. "Domino 2022" is a full-scale exercise funded by DG ECHO mainly dealing with chemical risks while taking into account a maritime pollution event. Given the foreseeable scale of the disaster, operational European modules (mobilized by the consortium partners and by other MS) as well as EU Civil Protection Team mobilized by the Emergency response Coordination Centre (ERCC) would be deployed. This field exercise will present the opportunity to share good practices and operational intervention techniques within the framework of the Union Civil Protection knowledge network.

ES gave a presentation of the recent IQOXE, Tarragona accident (14 January 2020). This establishment processes ethylene oxide, with a production capacity of 140,000 tonnes per year. The accident caused three deaths (two on-site, one off-site 2.5 km away) and released of several tonnes of chemicals (ethylene oxide, propylene oxide). It highlighted the difficulties encountered in responding to the major accident: proximity with several facilities, proximity of citizens, late response, and unexpected accident scenario. It outlined the main recommendations, especially the sheltering in case of an explosion scenario, the implementation of environmental monitoring for chemical pollution, the consideration of fragment projection in the accident scenarios of the safety report, as well as other low probability/high impact scenarios and the consideration to establish safety distances around Seveso facilities.

The Commission informed SEG members about the JRC publication of a new lessons learned bulletin special issue Covid-19 (n° 2) on the risk of oxygen-related fires in hospitals treating Covid-19 patients<sup>1</sup>. It invited Member States to share their experience, by written comments, on the classification of Seveso establishments considering the current increase of oxygen quantities.

#### 3. Commission Activities

3.1. Presentation of final draft report analysing and summarising Member States Implementation reports 2015-2018

The Commission recalled that, in line with usual practice, a consultancy had been contracted to conduct the analysis of the Member States' reports on the implementation of the Seveso-III Directive for the period 2015-2018. Member States were thanked for their co-operation with the consultants.

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https://minerva.jrc.ec.europa.eu/en/shorturl/minerva/llb\_on\_risk\_of\_oxygen\_related\_fires\_in\_hospitals\_treating\_covid\_ 19 patients

The latter presented the main outcomes of the report, conclusions on major accidents and establishments, socio-economic impact of major accidents, benchmarking and development of policy indicators to facilitate future evaluation of the Seveso-III Directive.

Overall, it was found that the Directive is relatively well implemented across Member States. The main problem areas remain inspections and emergency plans.

# 3.2. Information on the upcoming Commission report to the European Parliament and the Council on Seveso-III Directive implementation

The Commission recalled that it is required to publish a summary of the Member States four-yearly report on the implementation of the Seveso-III Directive as well as an assessment of the need to amend the scope of the Seveso III Directive, pursuant to Article 29.

The analoysis of the Member States implementation reports confirms that the Seveso-III Directive is effective. Despite an increase in the number of establishments covered by the Seveso-III Directive, overall the annual number of major accidents follows a stable trend. Moreover, in almost all areas (public information, establishment of EEPs, number of injuries...), there has been an improvement in the implementation of the Seveso-III Directive compared to previous periods.

The Commission highlighted that this first implementation report provides useful information, which will help identify actions to meet European Green Deal objectives and improve industrial accidents prevention. The Commission identified three levers to further improve the implementation of the Seveso III Directive and allow a consistent assessment of its scope:

- 1. Strengthening Seveso-III Directive implementation and promoting compliance
- 2. The Commission informed Member States it will continue its compliance monitoring and promotion efforts, and consider initiating infringement proceedings, where appropriate<sup>2</sup>. Improvement and streamlining of reporting

The Commission informed the SEG members it will also continue working on improving and streamlining the reporting process (eSPIRS, eMARS and the four-year implementation report).

# 3. <u>Improvement of communication and cooperation between the Commission and Member States</u>

The Commission informed Member States it will work closely with them to improve, where needed, their capacity building and define a framework for action to be implemented to improve the prevention of industrial accidents. In particular, this could include further support for reporting and implementation issues. The framework of this future work would be informed by Member States contributions under item 3.3.

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Enforcement priorities stipulated in the Communication 'EU law: Better results through better application'; C(2016)8600 final.

Finally, the Commission informed Member States that the report is expected to be published in the second quarter of 2021

# 3.3. Improvement of industrial accident prevention in the framework of the European Green Deal

Prior to the 8<sup>th</sup> SEG meeting, the Commission circulated a draft working document, entitled "*Improvement of industrial accident prevention in the framework of the European Green Deal*", as a basis for discussion and comments from SEG members.

The Commission recalled that, in collaboration with Member States, a great deal of work to improve the prevention of industrial accidents has already taken place. The Commission emphasized the work carried out by Member States and the JRC on lessons learned and inspections, which are key elements to maintain industrial safety culture across the European Union and to improve accident prevention and mitigation.

The Commission introduced the discussion with a short summary of the working document.

#### 3.3.1. Improvement and streamlining of reporting

## eSPIRS reporting

Regarding eSPIRS, the Commission informed SEG members that the European Environment Agency is currently working on crosslinking the databases managed by it through geospatial data and thereby creating a common repository of industrial entities – the so-called "Industrial Emission Portal". It will cover both the E-PRTR and IED legal instruments.

This work showed the long-term potential to also establish synergies with reporting under the Seveso III-Directive. However, this work could only be achieved when the EEA is given a formal role in the eSPIRS reporting.

#### Four-yearly implementation report

Regarding the four-yearly implementation report, the Commission recalled that the proposals are based on previous SEG meeting discussions, which led to a first Excel table template to allow more electronic and standardised reporting for the reporting period 2015-2018.

The Commission also recalled that this reporting template was established for the 7<sup>th</sup> SEG meeting, shortly before the deadline of the four-year implementation report 2015-2018. Therefore, instead of fully revising the current implementing decision prior to this deadline, Member States had the possibility to report in different ways – either following the implementing decision, or the questionnaire template. This created a significant

A website will present information on the largest industrial complexes in Europe, releases and transfers of regulated substances to all media (air, water and land), waste transfers as well as more detailed data on energy input and emissions for large combustion plants in European Union Member States. The information displayed are the one reported under Industrial Emissions Directive (IED) and the European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (E-PRTR)

administrative burden, as well as difficulties in comparing data reported in different formats.

In addition, the implementing decision could be updated to take into account the work done on the development of the template to provide standardised reporting and reduced administrative burden. A streamlined version of the excel sheet will be circulated through the Member States for discussion before adoption.

The Commission presented the possible timeframe for a streamlining and improvement of the reporting, considering its implementation by the end of 2021.

Several SEG members expressed concerns about changes in reporting as this could potentially increase administrative burden. Regarding eSPIRS, some of them recalled that the objectives of Seveso, IED and EPRTR are different and questioned the benefit of linking these databases. Regarding the activity of a Seveso establishment, some of them also expressed their wish not to declare the NACE code and the type of activity in eSPIRS. Also, some of them asked the Commission to provide an algorithm to link NACE codes directly to the type of activity described in the Commission implementation decision 2014/895/EU.

Besides, regarding the 4-year implementation report, some SEG members recalled that the reporting template discussed during the 7<sup>th</sup> SEG was not approved or adopted especially because of the timing. Some SEG members also shared their concerns about a change in reporting occurring in the middle of the 2019-2022 reporting cycle, which could have a significant impact on the administrative workload. Indeed, these reports are not all automated in most of the Member States and require time-consuming manual reporting.

The Commission recalled that the objectives of the reporting proposals are to lighten the administrative burden for Member States, to streamline the databases operated by the Commission on industrial facilities and to obtain statistical data that are more easily exploitable and comparable between Member States in order to assess the effectiveness of the Seveso-III Directive.

The Commission also shared its successful experience with the streamlining of the databases under the IED and E-PRTR, which, after initial investment, led to a significant reduction in Member State administrative burden. Finally, the Commission stressed that although the three legal instruments (IED, E-PRTR and Seveso) have different objectives, EU law provides for environmental information to be made available to the public – considering also the non-disclosure conditions provided for in Directive 2003/4/EC. Therefore, according to the Commission, the accessibility of information on industrial plants, which are within the scope of Seveso, IED and/or E-PRTR, in a single database, will also allow better access to information and participation of the public as provided for in the Aarhus Convention.

#### 3.3.2. Cooperation between the Commission and Member States

The Commission recalled that it is aware of the value of qualitative information, especially for lessons learnt, that cannot be derived from standardised reports. Therefore, it proposed the organisation of dedicated meetings to exchange on this valuable and helpful

information, which would allow better sharing of experience instead of collecting only once every four years. The Commission considered this could be achieved by organising biannual seminars or webinars for exchanges on specific items (Q&A, reporting difficulties, implementation difficulties...).

Furthermore, the Commission pointed out that the proposals in the draft working document are also based on other Members States needs already identified in previous meetings and reports, especially:

- Issuing the report on the implementation of the Seveso III Directive expected every four years;
- Drafting and controlling the safety management provisions (e.g. safety report, landuse planning policy, safety distances, domino effect, external emergency plan);
- Reporting of near misses;
- Reporting on major accidents in two steps, with a preliminary report submitted ahead of a fuller report released once investigations have taken place;
- Implementing the EU Gravity Scale of Industrial Accidents in the eMARS reporting, to better refine the characterization of the effects or consequences of industrial accidents. A first step could be the implementation of this scale on some accidents and used to analyse trends in the impacts of major industrial accidents.

The SEG members supported to the Commission proposals to strengthen cooperation between the Commission and Member States to improve the prevention of industrial accidents.

They also expressed a strong interest to develop the work on lessons learned, near misses reporting and sharing of good practices to improve the implementation of the directive.

Furthermore, the SEG members underlined the key role of the MAHB in its cooperative work with Member States thanks to its scientific support and the organisation and leading of the TWG II on inspections, which allows network building between the MS. Some Member States also highlighted the useful role of the MAHB in its support to Member States during the reporting under eMARS and in the dissemination of lessons learned

Finally, some SEG members proposed to:

- Reactivate the former working group on land-use planning;
- Potentially start a technical working group on implementation of emergency response on Seveso sites;
- Lighten the reporting for near misses. Actually, the expectations for the reporting of near misses are currently the same as major accident. A streamlining of the expected content in the reporting template for near misses could allow more near misses, interesting for lessons learned, to be reported.

The Commission invited written comments on this working document by 16 March 2021.

#### 3.4. Activities of DG JRC-MAHB

The Commission (DG JRC-MAHB) updated the SEG members on the following:

#### a) Chemical accidents

The JRC provided an overview of recent chemical accidents with high significance (e.g. in 2020: Beirut accident involving 2 750 tonnes of ammonium nitrate and the chemical plant explosion in Tarragona in Spain). The JRC also shared its reflection with the SEG members. It recalled that, even if improvements have been achieved over the years, there are still some risks to face an industrial accident considering the numerous parameters, which could lead to it: temporary warehouse storage, ageing of facilities, wrong mixture, etc. JRC also insisted on the importance of good communication based on the lessons learned following the Lubrizol accident and pointed out that further discussion on this issue would probably be needed.

#### b) EU reporting and trends

Based on preliminary data reported for chemical accidents, the JRC highlighted that, for 2020, the EU presented a number of events and deaths lower than OECD and non-OECD countries. Considering the figures presented, JRC transmitted two messages: 1/ Industrial accident prevention is working in the EU, 2/ the effort should continue.

Regarding EU statistics, the JRC informed that the reported major accidents happen mainly in chemical manufacturing and petroleum refineries. JRC noted that while the number of injuries and fatalities are reducing, one accident could change the trend. Therefore, JRC recalled that keeping these low figures required a strong involvement.

Regarding the eMARS database, JRC welcomed the increasing reporting by Member States of near misses interesting for lessons learned. It also highlighted the great cooperation between the JRC and Member States on collecting and correcting the information on industrial accidents to develop lessons learned. The MAHB thanked Member States for their early reporting when it was possible and reminded them to finalize the reporting with the most up-to-date data from the investigations findings.

Regarding the eSPIRS database, the JRC asked Member States to provide the link to the website where the public could find the information on the Seveso establishment (9% of establishments are missing any link) and to identify and update the establishments reported under the "other" category for describing its activity so that it fits with a specific existing category.

#### c) MAHB publication and activities<sup>4</sup>

JRC reminded SEG members about its Covid-19 related activities, especially the publication of two lessons learned bulletin, as well as about its recent and upcoming publications:

- Common Inspection Criteria (CIC) Natech risk management (published);
- Good Practice Report Learning Lessons from accidents (published);

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> https://minerva.jrc.ec.europa.eu/en/shorturl/minerva/publications

- Learning lessons from accidents Extended summary of good practice and experiences from Seveso inspectors workshop (2013) including results of Seveso inspector survey (soon);
- JRC Technical Report on Wildfires Triggering Natech events (autumn 2021).

JRC also informed SEG members about its ongoing and future projects:

- Industrial safety measurement indices (an online tool for measuring progress in implementation of the Seveso-III Directive and the UNECE Convention on Transboundary Effect of Industrial Accidents);
- Accident investigation and analysis handbook for inspectors;
- Seveso inspectors ("Mutual Joint Visit") workshop on information to the public;
- Common inspection criteria on internal emergency planning;
- Potentially a lessons learned study on chemical accidents in warehouses and distribution centers;
- Chemical accident information portal with references on historical chemical accidents, simplified tables of eMARS data and statistics from JRC analysis;
- Good practice report summarizing results of the survey on experiences and practices on managing chemical accident risk during the Covid-19 pandemic.

# 3.5. Presentation of the Technical Assistance and Information Exchange (TAIEX) - Environmental Implementation Review (EIR) Peer-to-Peer (P2P) Instrument

The Commission highlighted the possibility for Member States to apply for the "Technical assistance and information exchange instrument – environmental implementation review peer-to-peer" (TAEIX EIR P2P), which is an EU technical assistance and policy support instrument.

This practical tool aims at facilitating peer-to-peer learning and exchanges between environmental authorities. The TAIEX-EIR PEER 2 PEER programme provides tailored support to Member States' national, regional and local authorities implementing environmental policy and legislation. Their staff members can benefit directly from the experience and expertise of peers in other countries and regions. Especially, the Commission informed that related to industrial accident prevention the TAEIX-EIR P2P could be helpful for Member States (upon request) by mobilizing experts from other Member States, INSPIRE or IMPEL network or sharing good practices via workshops and networks. Another option is for the Commission to organize events for groups or all Member States based on recurrent needs (e.g. implementation of the Seveso-III Directive, lessons learned, development of guidelines, organising ad hoc meetings to exchange experience, etc.).

The Commission pointed out that the TAEIX EIR P2P finances:

- Travel, accommodation and a per diem for experts participating in expert missions or workshops. Additionally a flat daily allowance is provided per working day to the expert and compensation to EU MS experts involved as speakers;
- Travel and accommodation for participants in study visits or multi-country workshops;

- All the technical means for virtual (online) workshops and expert missions (platform, desk manager, interpretation, test sessions, etc);
- Working language is English. Interpretation can be financed if duly justified.

Finally, the Commission presented the dedicated website<sup>5</sup> where Member States could find more information and explanatory leaflets in all EU languages, as well as the website for the application<sup>6</sup> and link for public experts to register in the TAIEX expert database<sup>7</sup>. The same webpage also contains the agendas, presentations and documents of all the TAIEX EIR events so far.

## 3.6. Information on compliance promotion: action taken in 2019 and 2020

The Commission recalled the EU zero pollution ambition set out in the European Green Deal, which benefits public health, the environment and climate neutrality. It highlighted that EU environmental legislation must be applied effectively in order to deliver the expected results.

The Commission informed the SEG members it has been closely monitoring the correct transposition of the directive by Member States. Transposition problems were detected in 16 Member States, and infringement procedures have been or are being launched soon to tackle those. At present, SEG members were informed that 12 infringement procedures<sup>8</sup> are open for incorrect transposition of the Seveso III directive; and a few more may come in the course of 2021<sup>9</sup>. In addition, one EU Pilot<sup>10</sup> is also running.

The Commission indicated that frequent non-conformity issues are related to public information, public consultation and participation in decision-making (Articles 14, 15 & 22); or the directive's requirements in relation to the definition of 'new establishments', 'existing establishments', and 'other establishments' (Article 3). Other frequent non-conform transposition issues relate, among others, to obligations of operators to produce a safety report for upper-tier establishments (Article 10); or to deploy a major accident prevention policy (Art. 8).

# 3.7. Update of the Q&A and last questions received

The Commission presented working document no 2 related to two recent questions:

3.7.1. Question from Croatia: Should the safety reports consider only scenarios of accidents which are under the control of an operator (e.g. excluding terrorism attack)?

The Commission recalled the provisions of Annex II, point 4, detailing the minimum data and information to be considered in the safety report referred to in Article 10.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> https://ec.europa.eu/environment/eir/p2p/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/TMSWebRestrict/resources/js/app/#/applicationform/home

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/TMSWebRestrict/resources/js/app/#/edb/home

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> FR, HR, MT, IE, LT, LU, DE, AT, EE, HU, FI, BG.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> SI, CZ, SK, SE, DK.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> FR.

Therefore, the Commission considered that the Seveso-III Directive neither explicitly excludes nor includes taking terrorist attacks into account in the safety report. Therefore, it would be the responsibility of the Member States to decide how Seveso operators should address those threats.

Some Member States asked the Commission to reconsider its proposal, recalling that the Seveso directive only focusses on safety and that security requires specific studies. They also recalled that security concerns are not in line with the original objectives of the Seveso-III Directive. Other Member States considered there is an interface between safety and security, especially when considering malicious acts from inside an establishment or through the IT infrastructure.

The Commission informed Member States that further discussion will be organised on this issue to find a suitable solution, based on their written comments.

The Commission invited written comments by 16 March 2021.

3.7.2. Question from Belgium: What should be the classification for the substance 'Pyrolysis oil from waste rubber and tyres'?

The Commission recalled that the criteria to classify a substance under Annex I, Part 2, entry 34 of named substances are depicted in the Q&A - 039:

- 1. The substance must be destined for use as fuel
- 2. It must shows similar hazard properties like the petroleum products in (a)-(d) of entry 34 (i.e. classified as "flammable liquid" and/or as "hazardous to the environment chronic 2".)
- 3. Although not excluding other non-petroleum fuels, the entry 'alternative fuels' was initially introduced to not discriminate fuels from sustainable and renewable sources compared to petroleum products.

While the substance 'Pyrolysis oil from waste rubber and tires' met the second criterion, the Commission highlighted it was not always intended for use as a fuel and never came from "sustainable and renewable sources".

The Commission also recalled that entry 34 in Part 2 of Annex 1 was initially added to avoid bringing small petrol stations within the scope of the Seveso III Directive. The aim was to keep specifically within this scope terminals and refineries containing conventional or alternative fuels with the same properties.

Belgium informed the SEG members that it raised this question to avoid the decision on the classification of *'Pyrolysis oil from waste rubber and tires'* to rely on the interpretation on whether or not the substance is used as a fuel. Belgium also informed the SEG members that the answer will impact the Seveso classification of waste derived fuels.

Sweden recalled it was at the origin of the introduction of this possible classification 34(e) with the aim to authorise only the substances used as a fuel coming from renewable and sustainable sources. Therefore, it considered that the substance should not be classified

under entry 34(e) as it would open this classification to any fuel from fossil origin contrary to the objective of this entry.

Poland added that scientific studies state that this oil cannot serve as fuel because of the low flashpoint temperature. Therefore, it also proposed to not classify 'Pyrolysis oil from waste rubber and tires' under entry 34(e).

To finalize its proposal the Commission invited written comments by 16 March 2021.

#### 4. International Considerations

# **4.1. UNECE Convention on Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents** (TEIA)

The TEIA Secretariat recalled that the vision of the Convention is to significantly increase industrial safety, reduce the risk of technological disasters, as well as to serve as an example of the prevention and preparedness for industrial accidents through transboundary cooperation.

The Secretariat presented the key outcomes of the 11<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the TEIA Convention (7-9 December 2020). The Parties especially adopted the decision on strengthening mine tailings safety in the UNECE region and beyond, which acknowledges the key role for the Convention to play in future in reducing risks of failures at tailings management facilities.

Parties also adopted the decision on strengthening implementation, committing themselves to make further progress towards the Convention's full implementation:

- Identifying industrial hazardous activities and notifying each other of those which could cause a transboundary effect;
- Developing and implementing policies, strategies and measures for prevention and preparedness, including on land-use planning and siting;
- Cooperating with neighbouring countries in the development of harmonized or joint contingency-plans).

Furthermore, the Secretariat updated SEG members on its current and upcoming activities:

- The Secretariat released an online toolkit and training for strengthening mine tailings safety<sup>11</sup> so that countries in the UNECE region and beyond can address key risks;
- The European Investment Bank and the UNECE launched an Information Repository of Good Practices and Lessons Learned in Land-Use Planning and Industrial Safety<sup>12</sup>. This online hub consolidates the good practices and lessons learned over the past decade by UNECE countries and beyond in the fields of land-use planning, industrial safety, the siting of industrial/chemical facilities, environmental assessment, public participation, information for the public, disaster risk reduction and transboundary cooperation;

11 https://unece.org/environment-policyindustrial-accidents/online-toolkit-and-training-strengthening-mine-tailings

<sup>12</sup> https://unece.org/information-repository-good-practices-and-lessons-learned-land-use-planning-and-industrial-safety

- The Secretariat recalled the publication on its website of the last guidelines related to safety and good practices for the management of firefighting water<sup>13</sup>;
- In late 2021, following a request expressed during COP11 by the EU and its Member States, a seminar will be organized on the lessons learned following the Beirut accident.

Finally, the Secretariat informed SEG participants on its assistance activities carried out on mine tailings safety and National Policy Dialogues (NPD) in Central Asia, as well as on its technical mission to Ukraine to facilitate the process of accession to the Convention. The secretariat also recalled that some desired assistance activities still required financing for their implementation, especially the projects on NPD for industrial safety in South-Eastern Europe and in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus, as well as the so-called "Danube Delta-II" Project on preparedness and response.

# **4.2.** OECD Working Group on Chemical Accidents (WGCA)

The secretariat of the OECD Working Group on Chemical Accidents presented:

- The upcoming draft of the reviewed OECD flagship publication "Guiding Principles for Chemical Accidents Prevention, Preparedness and Response";
- The upcoming first draft of the guidance document on the benefits of regulation for chemical accidents prevention, preparedness and response;
- The 2017 survey to collect experiences and good practices for Natech risk management across OECD and non-OECD member countries<sup>14</sup>;
- Release of the repository of examples of good practice in Natech Risk Management<sup>15</sup>;
- The good practices for the management of inspections at hazardous installations 16.

#### 5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS AND CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

SEG members and observers were invited to submit written comments on agenda items, especially on the working document "Improvement of industrial accident prevention in the framework of the European Green Deal", by 16 March 2021.

### **Attachments:**

Annex I: List of participants and observers;

• Annex II: Privacy Statement Seveso Expert Group.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> https://unece.org/environment-policy/publications/safety-guidelines-and-good-practices-management-and-retention

http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=env/jm/mono(2020)4&doclanguage=en

<sup>15</sup> https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/en/topics/economics-consumption/plant-safety/examples-of-good-practice-in-natech-risk-management

<sup>16</sup> http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=env/cbc/mono(2021)2&doclanguage=en